



the RARA RAG

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Projects, Annual Vote and Summer Public Service

By Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY
Vice-President, RARA

All of us have bread-boarded a circuit to test it now and again. Some of us do this scientific test better than others; Dr. Jerry Svoboda, KB2QIU, has made an art form of bread-boarding. When not working QRP CW, KB2QIU builds. You've seen the highly varnished single tube transmitters, receivers and power supplies that Jerry has built at the auctions, hamfests, and on the cover of the October, 1999 /QST/. Now you can see his latest projects up close while KB2QIU discusses his process and ideas about the projects.

RARA's Annual Meeting, the election of your Board of Directors and Officers occurs this May 5th; nominations will be taken from the floor, or if you or a friend would like to run for office, please leave a message at 764-0312.

This summer's public service events will be discussed and all will have a chance to question Keith Freeberg, N2BEL, on their pet public service project.

Come to the RARA General Membership and Annual Meeting: 7:30pm May 5, 2006 at the Henrietta Fire Station #1 - Lehigh Station and East Henrietta Roads in Henrietta.

RaRa Annual Meeting

**May 5, 2006
7:30 P.M.**

Henrietta Fire Hall #1
3129 East Henrietta Road
**Public Service by N2BEL &
Bread Board Circuits by
Dr. Jerry Svoboda, KB2QIU**

Joint Comedy RARA & RRRR Summer Picnic

By Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY
Vice-President, RARA

CQ all hams, XYL's and Harmonics to Ellison Park on June 17 for an afternoon of grilling, gaming and gaffawing. This year's theme is: "Stand-Up (to the Mike) Comedy Time," so all you W2-area jokesters (and wannabees) bring your latest material - or use ours - to tryout on a (semi-?) friendly crowd! I know, I know, five thousand comedians out of work and we'll have all of them right there at the picnic!

This year's get-to-gether will be at Creekside Lodge, one of our favorite spots. Hots, condiments, munchies and soft drinks will be provided. We ask that you bring a dish to pass (salads or deserts etc.) Frisbees, entertainment and doorprizes will be available starting at 12 Noon local time. Talk-in on the '88 repeater system, and in-park on 146.52.

Monroe County LEPC

The next meeting of Monroe County Local Emergency Planning Committee will be held on Wednesday morning May 10, 2006 at 8:30 AM at the Public Safety Training Facility, 1190 Scottsville Road in the OEP, Suite 200.

The meeting is open to the public and all are welcome. Please sign in as an amateur radio guest; coffee and doughnuts will be served.

**Rochester Hamfest
June 2-3-4, 2006**

RaRa Hotline

(585) 442-0587

24 hours a day

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RaRa Rag 2

The Prez Sez

By Dick Goslee, KG2I
President, RARA

Wow, this past year has gone by very fast. This will be my last column as President of RARA. In June Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY will take over as the incoming President.

We have accomplished a lot during the past year and it would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the other officers, members of the Board of Directors and the various committee heads. I have enjoyed working with all of these hard workers and to them I say "THANK YOU, I could not have done it without your help".

The Nominating Committee has presented their list of nominees for the next year and the floor is still open for additional nominations at the May meeting. We are still looking for someone to step up and join the group as the Secretary. If you are interested in this position or any other position on the Board please step up and get nominated (or nominate yourself) at the May meeting. We would love to have you. The elections will be held at the meeting and the new officers and directors will take over at the conclusion of the meeting.

If you missed the annual Old Timers' Night with Ed Gable, K2MP you missed a good one. Ed always comes up with interesting topics about the history of amateur radio and this one was very good. A large number of people in attendance got started in this hobby by getting their Novice License and received one of those funny calls with the "N" in it. I was surprised that everyone except for one person kept their original call after dropping the N when they upgraded after the first year expired. Must be I am different. I changed mine. I must admit however that I did keep the old K2VCZ call for 45 years before I changed it. Some people just change slowly.

Congratulations to Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY on his appointment to the ARRL Field Organization. The Section Manager for WNY, Scott Bauer, W2LC was at the April meeting and presented Larry with his certificate of appointment as "Public Information Officer" for WNY. Larry has been our hard working Media Coordinator for the past 2 years and he has developed many contacts in the media to get out the word about what Amateur Radio is all about. Great job Larry.

That's it for now. I hope to see you all at the Rochester Hamfest in June and also at the annual joint RARA/RRRA Summer Picnic.

Nominated for Office for 2006-2007

The following individuals have been nominated by the Nominating Committee and they have supplied the following Biographies.

Nominated for Vice-President

James DiTucci, N2IXD

In 1959 my uncle, an Electrical Engineer at General Dynamics, handed me a metal parts cabinet full of strange looking devices. These components, manufactured by companies like General Electric, Raytheon, RCA, Sylvania, Scientific Radio Products, Cornell Dubilier, Sangamo, and others were stamped with identifiers like 2N43, CK722, 3655 KC, and .0001 MFD/5000V. In another box were dozens of electron tubes in all shapes, sizes and construction, stamped with numbers like 6Q7, 1H4 and 807. My uncle said to me, "In these boxes you will find magic. Have fun!" And that I did!

With several of those parts in hand, I spent hours in the library searching through radio and electronics books trying to match those parts to pictures. Armed with "The Boys' First Book of Radio and Electronics," by Alfred Morgan, I returned home eager to experiment. I built project after project, using and reusing those parts until the leads broke off or they fizzled in smoke.

I built several communications receivers and transmitters and my penchant for the magic of radio led me to far-away destinations. Through a newfound interest in short wave listening I developed a love of Geography and International Affairs. In later years while serving on Army active duty I had the great joy of becoming intimately familiar with the under-hood operation and maintenance of classic communication equipment like the R-390, T-195, TT-77, TT-98 and other AN/GRC series HF/VHF tactical communications systems manufactured by venerable companies such as Collins, Stromberg-Carlson, Harris and others. As an early participant in the '70s computer revolution, I was well positioned to build a career in IT sales and later in technical support that continues to this day.

Along the way my desire to experiment brought me to the RaRa Hamfest in search of the strange, unusual and hard-to-find. By the early '80s I was involved as a regular commercial Hamfest Exhibitor and drafted as a Holdsworth Coolie. Yet, all of this took place before I ever entertained the urge to pick up a microphone. But in 1988, nearly 30-years after my uncle presented me with that box

of magic, I earned my first ticket. I upgraded to Extra Class (the hard way) in 1991.

Today I pursue my passion in the following areas: Assistant Emergency Coordinator, Monroe County ARES, President, Rochester Radio Repeater Association, ARRL Official Emergency Station (OES), ARRL EMCOMM Certification, American Red Cross Disaster Services training and RaRa Board of Directors.

In the last few years I have added new terms to my Amateur Radio vocabulary: APRS, SKYWARN, ARRL DXCC, National Traffic System, Winlink-2000, Wi-Fi, Project METEOR, PSK-31, AMSAT, EMCOMM, ARISS, Wireless Literacy, ARES/RACES, VoIP. Above all, I have never lost my passion for experimenting.

When I am not involved in an Amateur Radio activity you are likely to find me at my bench meticulously crafting a Hi-Vis Comparadun or Mini Muddler, or perhaps somewhere in the Catskill Mountains perfectly presenting a #22 Micro-Midge through a well-defined current seam. (No, this is not Ham Radio double-speak.) Of course, even then, you will find my HT hanging on my belt.

Ask me what my proudest Amateur Radio accomplishment is and I will quickly reply that it was working with my 11-year old daughter Kira (KD2FBI) to get her ticket.

What will the future bring? It's clear to me that the future of our hobby rests in our hands and that it hinges on growing participation and membership – in Amateur Radio, in RaRa, and especially in growing youth membership. It's for these reasons that I have accepted the nomination for Vice President of RARA. I realize that in doing so, should I be elected to that office, I will have made a 2-year commitment to the future of our tradition steeped club and it is here that I feel I can best steer the pursuit of our future. After all, isn't it time to share the magic?

Nominated for Treasurer

George Masny, KA2GPJ

A six-year veteran of the RARA Board of Directors, I hold a General Class license and have managed to keep the call active since 1975 in spite of being married and helping my wife raise three wonderful kids. Currently I am serving my third term as Treasurer of RARA, and my signature has been on the membership cards for the past four years, which is how long I've been your Membership Chairman.

(Masny continued on Page 4)

I have been fiddling with radios since 1957, when I used a toilet paper roll core to wind the coil for a crystal set. The radio worked great - it picked up a lot of Spanish speaking stations, which was not much of a surprise as I was living in Buenos Aires at the time. My first ham radio experience was in 1965 when a neighborhood Elmer in NYC, WA2FXE, introduced me to the joys of working DX on 15 and chewing the rag on 2M.AM using a Benton Harbor lunch box. Currently, packet radio is my primary interest, and for the past 20 years or so, I have been operating packet radio and keeping the Kodak Park node (KPARK) and BBS (ROCBBS-WB2WXQ) running.

I am currently the last elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Kodak Park Amateur Radio Club, a member of the Rochester Amateur Packet Society and trustee for the RAPS APRS digipeater (KB2WYA), and last, but not least, I maintain the RochesterSpecialEvents and RARA-General e-mail reflectors on <http://groups.yahoo.com/> Stop by and sign in sometime!

Nominated to the BOD

James V. Stefano, Jr., W2COP,

I am a lifetime resident of the Rochester, NY. area, born in 1957. When growing up I vividly remember spending many summer days reading the ARRL books at the Henrietta library, later becoming licensed in 1973. My concentration has always been in VHF/UHF FM communications and repeaters and I use to love building antennas as a kid. I participated in my first Public Service event in 1975 at the 'Hike for Hope' where I met the now late Ray Pickens, who was working CB radio at the same checkpoint I was. I introduced Ray to Ham radio after showing him my 'Genave' 10 channel 2-meter FM radio and explained to him how repeaters worked. He was hooked after that, and you all know the rest of the story! I'm very glad to hear that the RARA donations of ARRL books (for this year) will be made to the Henrietta Library in Ray's memory.

In 1992 I became involved in Packet Radio and built the amateur radio packet gateway node for Livingston County at the time. I later became interested in Radio(Voice)/IP and in 1996 started the first dedicated repeater in the Rochester area linked world-wide via the Internet. I've been involved in the ARISS program along with ARES/RACES locally.

I spent 21 years in law enforcement during which time I implemented a pilot project to install the first

wireless laptop computers and printers in police vehicles here in Monroe County. I also migrated our agency completely to digital photography for all forensic police work, one of the first in the State to do so at the time back in the year 2000 (yes, we used some of Kodak's first digital cameras too)!

I retired early from that career because you're always living on borrowed time, and in my second career I now manage Information Technology for RIT's Electrical Engineering Department. I'm the Technical Advisor to the RIT Amateur Radio Club where we manage the APRS Internet Gateway for the Rochester area and have a campus repeater with an IRLP link.

I'm an accomplished pianist playing for over 40 years, and my other interests include astronomy, audio and computers. I look forward to serving at least one more year on the RARA Board of Directors where I'm currently working with a graphic designer who is developing a logo so we can 'brand' our organization to increase our visibility in the community. I've enjoyed playing host for our monthly board meetings at RIT and look forward to hopefully another year of doing so.

Ross Mazzola, KC2LOC

I want to thank the nominating committee of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association for nominating me for a second term on its Board of Directors. It is truly an honor to be a part of this very worthwhile organization. As many of you know, Education and Public Service are the cornerstones of RARA. If elected, I pledge to make these my focus.

I have a thirst for knowledge and one way that I've been able to satisfy that thirst is through RARA club meetings and the excellent presentations that we have had. This past year I especially enjoyed the Skywarn program put on by the folks from the Buffalo Weather Service and the QSL talk given by Bill, WB2SXY. Using his suggestions, I have had a 100% QSL return rate from contacts I made to Japan, Russia and my personal favorite- Swaziland. I've also learned a great deal from other RARA members who have helped me with my homebrew antenna projects and to explore the digital modes. This past year, thanks to the many "Elmers" in our midst, I had the confidence to play with PSK-31 and APRS. The next time that you have a question or are curious about something in amateur radio, just ask someone at a meeting or on the air. Your fellow hams will be glad to help! Speaking of help, Keith, N2BEL reports that RARA members have an opportunity to be involved in 17 different public service events this year including perhaps one of the largest non-emergency public service efforts to date- The

Empire State Games. If you haven't yet signed-up for ESG it's not too late. Just see Keith or any RARA officer, director or committee person and you'll be pointed in the right direction. Events such as this give hams the opportunity to build communication infrastructure, practice working in an Incident Command System environment, and best of all have fun! Look for me at the gymnastics, lacrosse or ice hockey events.

While I've only been a ham for three short years I've learned much, met some terrific people and had a lot of fun being a member of RARA. Please let me help our organization stay the course and keep its focus on education and public service.

Raj Dewan, N2RD

It is the social aspect of ham radio that I most treasure. Through it I have met the most interesting of people from a wide variety of professions and life situations. Ham radio really cuts across the normal boundaries that separate us. Through this hobby we have a chance to meet and strike up a conversation with a complete stranger and have the love of radio in common. What a blessing this is.

I got my license in Illinois in 1991. One day in July of that year, I took element 1A (5WPM code), element 2 (Tech), element 3 (general), element 1B (13wpm code) and element 4. What an evening! At the end of it all, I had passed all the exams to get an Advanced ticket. I improved my code while waiting for my ticket and my first qso was on 20m CW with KC0IO in Pine, Colorado. What a thrill it was. CW really got my attention. It was easy after that to upgrade to Extra which I did a couple months later. For the next ten years I primarily focused on CW and have barely a handful of SSB contacts on HF.

Today I use a variety of modes, though CW remains my favorite. I hunt DX and contest avidly. I am a member of RDXA. I have recently added 6m, 2m and 1.25m rigs. I am also a member of RVHFG and manage its website.

I joined RARA by volunteering to help with VE testing. I have been privileged to meet some great Volunteer Examiners, who are also RARA members. They give up a morning each month for VE testing thereby providing locals an easy means to get a new ham ticket or upgrade. It is most gratifying to see the delight in a new ham's face when he or she passes her first ham radio license exam. What a thrill.

In the short period that I have been a member of RARA, I have been most impressed with the variety of public service projects and other useful endeavors that RARA club members take on. It really is a full service club in true sense of the phrase. If elected, I look forward to serving as a director of the organization.

Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY

I retired from the SUNY College at Brockport, where I taught in the psychology department. My Ph.D. specialization is in biobehavioral studies, and my research examined the relationship between neurochemistry and behavior. My academic experience included serving on numerous committees, often as committee chair. Board membership includes serving for a nonprofit daycare center, and subsequently becoming the board president. Further, I took a course in "Boardsmanship" from the United Way. I also served as an officer for Oak Orchard Yacht Club.

My interest in radio began as a child. My father, who was an electrical engineer, got me my first radio for SWL, a National NC-105. I continued to tune in during adulthood, and then began restoring tube radios. I especially enjoyed working on Nationals and World War II vintage ARC-5 Command Sets. When I retired a few years ago, my doctor told me to take up a challenging and stimulating hobby, and amateur radio was the first thing that came to mind. Homebrew antennas and gadgets keep me busy in addition to club activities.

I currently serve as Managing Editor of the *RaRa Rag* and write the monthly column, *Sidebands - Amateur Radio in the News*. As the Media Communications chair, I work on bringing media attention to club activities. During this past 12 months there were two *Democrat & Chronicle* articles that were devoted to ham radio, and announcements of club events appeared on a monthly basis in many of the local print media. Last year, I performed volunteer PR work for Hamfest. My recent appointment to ARRL Public Information Officer for the Western New York Section will involve media communications duties on a regional basis. Public service is one of our important activities, and I have been supportive of this aspect of club activity as well. Also, an education program is an important foundation of any club. Recruitment and retention of members should remain a high priority. My club memberships, besides RaRa, include RRRA and ARRL.

Also Nominated for BOD

In addition Peter Pryzlock, K2LOL and John Kueken, KE2QJ were nominated by the Nominating Committee.

**June Rag Deadline
May 12, 2006**

RaRa Rag 20 Years Ago, May 1986

By Ed Gable, K2MP
RARA Historian

Vice-President and Program Chairman Dick Goslee, K2VCZ, came up with an interesting meeting for the May 2nd meeting at the 40/8 Club venue. Talking about the technical aspects of cable television was Earl Houseknecht, Vice-President of *Greater Rochester Cablevision*. At this annual business meeting there will also be the usual election of officers and setting of the dues structure for next year. The Nominating Committee, consisting of Bill March WA2CER as Chairman, with Irv AF2K and Ed K2MP, nominated Bud Young WA2UGE to VP, Keith Freeberg N2BEL as Secretary and Dave Bernheisel N2DPF as Treasurer. Full report next month.

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, wrote a comprehensive article covering the numerous public service events already scheduled for the year. STPR, Mendon Pony Club, Scotch Bonnet, Walnut Hill, Empire State Games (Buffalo), Ginna Drill, Diabetes Bike-a-thon and the JCC 10K Human Race should be familiar sounding events then and now. Ed also reported on the just completed Western New York ARRL Officials meeting conducted by SCM Bill Thompson, W2MTA, in Vestal, New York. Pictured in this issue were local attendees Ed N2EH, Rich K2UW, Bud WA2UGE, Ed K2MP, Dave KA2J, Bill WA2CER and Gil WB2UTI.

The ARRL announced that RaRa, an ARRL Special Service Club, was authorized to recommend the appointment of a local card checker to administer ARRL W.A.S. and VUCC awards. Ed Gable, K2MP, was appointed and has been performing that task now for some 20 years. More recently, Ed has also been appointed a field checker for the ARRL DXCC awards.

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH, reported on the Spring code and theory classes. It looks like 55 new Amateurs will graduate and enter the exciting world of Ham Radio via this session. Ed Acknowledged and thanked the instructors; Dave K2SQI, Ed K2MP, Bud WA2UGE and Ron, K2RJ.

Ed Kohl, WA2UBD, wrote telling of plans for the RaRa Memorial Day camp out to be held at the Canandaigua KOA on May 23rd through the 26th. Listed in this large issue were the Program Highlights for the approaching Rochester Hamfest and ARRL Convention. It was a pleasure to read in this issue an always interesting DX news column by Fred Gern KB2SE.

The world's youngest ham was announced. Her Royal Majesty Princess Raya, daughter of King

Hussein, JY1, was, according to Jordanian tradition, awarded a ham radio license at birth. Her call is JY2RBH. From the Want Ads you could buy a Gotham Quad antenna for \$30.00 from Earl, W2WQV.

AWA to Have Spring Meet, May 6th

By Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN
Curator, AWA Museum

The annual AWA Spring Meet will be held May 6th at the Bloomfield Elementary School starting at 8:00 a.m. The entire day is devoted to vintage radio and communication themes, starting with indoor and outdoor flea markets, a large auction of radio items, talks and demonstrations, and continuous screening of vintage films. In the afternoon the world famous AWA Museum and Annex are open. Refreshments are available during the day and other group gatherings are encouraged and popular.

The entry fee is only three dollars for this all-day event and includes an award drawing. Indoor flea market tables (provided) are \$7.00 each. Open to the public and the indoor venue assures a great time, rain or shine. Vendor space is still available. Call event Chairman Ron Roach, W2FUI, at (585) 526-5487, for further information.

Sidebands – Amateur Radio in the News

By Larry Wallnau, W2ZEY
RARA Media Coordinator

Vanity call sign fee to drop – The FCC wants to reduce the Fiscal Year 2006 regulatory fee to obtain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign to \$20.10 for the 10-year license term. The current vanity fee is \$21.90. The Commission proposed the new fee in a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2006," in MD Docket 06-68, released March 27. If ordered as proposed, the new vanity fee would become effective in August or September. The FCC is obligated to collect nearly \$289 million in regulatory fees during FY 2006 to fund its operations. Hmmm. A savings of \$1.80 amortized over ten years translates into a savings of 18 cents a year! I can get that new transceiver.

Websites of the month – Jake Groenhof, N0LX, describes his "Portaventure" with photographs at

http://www.n0lx.com/pm_hilltop.html. The 20-foot telescoping pole he uses is available at Cabela's at a very reason price [see <http://tinyurl.com/d3m7t>].

Ever wonder what that was you were hearing on your radio? Or perhaps you would like samples of digital communications sounds to use in a presentation. This website by Gary Hahn, KB9UKD, has a little bit of almost everything. You can sample the sound bytes off the web, or download them for insertion in presentations. <http://kb9ukd.com/digital/>

New hams in space – The International Space Station Expedition 13 crew of Commander Pavel Vinogradov, RV3BS, and Flight Engineer Jeff Williams, KD5TVQ, lifted off from Baikonur, Kazakhstan, for their docking to the ISS. They'll take over the ISS from the Expedition 12 crew of Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, and Valery Tokarev. The new crew docked at the station April 1 at 0419 Zulu, Brazil's first astronaut, Marcos Pontes, will join the Expedition 13 crew for the trip into space and will spend a week aboard the ISS conducting research under a commercial agreement between the Brazilian Space Agency and the Russian Federal Space Agency. Brazilian telecommunications authorities have granted Pontes the call sign PY0AEB for use on his space journey, and there are plans for him to conduct ARISS school contacts during his mission. Pontes will return to Earth April 8 with McArthur and Tokarev, who've been in space since last October.

Solar happenings – Solar activity is suddenly increasing. The biggest sunspots of the year are crossing the solar disk – one group is longer than 10 Earth diameters and poses a threat for solar flares. Meanwhile, astronomers are monitoring a large and delightfully complex prominence dancing along the sun's surface. Whether all this activity will translate into magnetic storms and auroras remains to be seen. Go to <http://spaceweather.com> for pictures and updates [provided by Robert Ower, WA7YUL].

DS2 BPL demonstration – A demonstration at ARRL Headquarters of DS2 BPL equipment suggests the chipset developer and manufacturer is working to minimize, if not altogether eliminate, interference from its products on amateur bands, ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, says. Hare met with two DS2 officials at ARRL to discuss the company's improved approach to Amateur Radio band notching techniques. Based upon his observations during a demonstration of DS2's latest generation G2 technology, Hare says

he's cautiously optimistic. A spectrum analyzer check of the modem's output showed the G2 modem could attain a notch depth of up to 40 dB. "While there's no certainty that all BPL products using this technology could achieve 40 dB of protection within notched spectrum, our tests show the capability to do so is there," Hare commented. "This may not prevent all interference problems, but a 10 to 15 dB improvement over the notching used by many BPL systems in place today would be a significant improvement." Hare points out that DS2 chipsets are used by BPL equipment makers Ambient, Amperion, Corinex and Mitsubishi, among others. "Our work with DS2 could help manufacturers as they address interference problems in earlier-generation equipment."

ARES activated in tornado's aftermath – Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) teams in Missouri this week assisted emergency managers in that state with damage assessment after a huge string of tornados swept through the nation's midsection March 12. Nine people were reported dead in Missouri and one in Indiana in the aftermath of the severe weather. Missouri Section Emergency Coordinator Don Moore, KM0R, told ARRL that he and three other radio amateurs deployed March 13 as a "quick-response team" to Pettis County, Missouri, just south of Sedalia along US Route 65 to support the county's emergency operations center (EOC). "There was some major wind through here," Moore told ARRL. The severe weather damaged or took down utility lines along US Route 65 and elsewhere. The Pettis County Emergency Management Agency requested the ARES call-up. Nine ARES members ultimately activated to help seven damage-assessment teams. ARES stood down later the same day. ARES handled minimal voice traffic, Moore said. While the ARES group was prepared to pass damage assessments to the EOC via WinLink 2000, that turned out not to be necessary. The ARES team did communicate with the Missouri Emergency Management Agency to demonstrate Winlink from the field, he added. Missouri appears to have been the state hardest hit by the weekend storms, which generated hail said to have been the size of softballs. Damage in the Show-Me State stretched from west to east, with houses reportedly destroyed along a 20-mile path south of St Louis.

Tornadoes also struck Kansas, where the University of Kansas canceled classes March 13 due to safety concerns. The school, located in Lawrence, reportedly suffered damage to nearly two-thirds of its buildings, but no serious injuries were reported.

(Sidebands continued on Page 8)

Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) members were requested to deploy the SATERN Mobile Generator Trailer when the storms knocked out power in Douglas County, Kansas. SATERN Kansas State Coordinator June Jeffers, KB0WEQ, reports that SATERN members moved the generator from Olathe to Lawrence, keeping in touch with the emergency nets along the way. SATERN and ARES members in eastern Kansas remained on standby in case they were needed.

In Arkansas, Section Manager David Norris, K5UZ, reports Franklin County ARES/RACES and Sebastian County RACES activated SKYWARN nets over the weekend. "Northwest Arkansas was hammered late last night with quite a bit of damage in Centerton," he told ARRL March 13. He reported several people injured and considerable property damage. Arkansas SEC J.M. Rowe, N5XFW, reported SKYWARN nets were active as the severe weather approached.

NASA honors Cronkite – NASA has honored legendary CBS TV news anchor Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, for his coverage of the US space program. Cronkite, who has narrated two ARRL Amateur Radio videos, received the Ambassador of Exploration Award February 28. "His marathon, live coverage of the first moon landing brought the excitement and impact of the historic event into the homes of millions of Americans and observers around the world," NASA said in announcing the award. NASA is presenting the Ambassador of Exploration Award to the 38 astronauts and other key individuals who participated in the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo space programs for realizing America's vision of space exploration from 1961 to 1972. Cronkite is the first non-astronaut and only NASA outsider to receive the award, which consists of a small, encased sample of lunar material mounted for public display. Cronkite is the best-remembered journalist for his commentary and enthusiastic coverage of the historic progression of missions from the early Mercury launches, through the ground-breaking Gemini missions, to the Apollo 11 and subsequent moon landings.

RaRa Hotline

(585) 442-0587

24 hours a day

May & June Calendar – Events In The WNY Area

May

- 5 - RaRa Meeting – 7:30 PM - Henrietta Fire Hall, 3129 East Henrietta Road
- 7 - MS Walk in Rochester, Greece & Geneseo. Contact Keith Freeberg, N2BEL for details.
- 11 - BARK – 7:00 PM monthly meeting at Bob Rachow, N2WY, 1140 Peck Rd., Hilton
- 12 - RVHFG – 7:30 PM, monthly meeting at Ogden Town Hall, 269 Ogden Center Rd.
- 16 - RDXA – 7:30 PM, monthly meeting at Gander Mountain, Jay Scutti Blvd, Henrietta
- 19 - RRRRA – 8:00PM Monthly Meeting at Pittsford Town Hall, basement meeting room

June

- 2-4 Rochester Hamfest, Dome Center, Calkins Rd. at East Henrietta Rd., Henrietta
- 3 - STPR Rally, Wellsboro, PA. Contact Keith Freeberg, N2BEL for details.
- 11 - Tour de Cure, Rochester. Contact Keith Freeberg, N2BEL for details.
- 17 - Annual RARA/RRRA Summer Picnic, 12Noon, Ellison Park. (see article for details).

RaRa Amateur Radio License Testing

NO TESTING IN MAY
(Dayton is the same weekend)

**Final testing for this year will be
at the Rochester Hamfest, June
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